(ग) इन असंतुलनों के लिये कौन-कौन से तंत्रों को दोषी पाया गया है ; और

(घ) उनमें सुधार लाने के लिये क्या-क्या प्रयास किये गये हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एस० कृष्ण कुमार) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता ।

Financial assistance to cooperative societies by NCDC

6559. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to cooperative societies by the National Cooperative Development Corporation for promoting the trade of consumer goods in the tribal and rural areas of the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the National Cooperative Development Corporation has made any review of the performance of these cooperative societies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) A statement-Indicating the State/Union Territory-wise release of financial assistance made by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) upto 31-3-94 under its Rural Consumer Scheme to Cooperative Societies for promoting trade of consumer goods in rural and tribal areas is enclosed. (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The National Cooperative Development Corporation commissioned Council for Rural and Cooperative Development (CRCD) to undertake a study of their Rural Consumer's Scheme in 1990 in the States of Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and West Bengal. The recommendations made in the study were communicated to these states and other concerned organisations in 1991 for evolving suitable measures for improving the operational performance of the cooperatives in rural consumer business. Main recommendations of the study are given in Statement-II. (*See* below) Another study had also been commissioned by NCDC for Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh in 1994. The report of this study has been received by NCDC on 21-4-95 and the findings of the study are being examined by the NCDC.

Statement—I

Assistance provided by NCDC for promoting trade of consumer goods.

Sl. No.	State U/T	Cumulative assistance provided upto 31-3-94		
		In Rural Area	In Tribal Areas	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	267.41	32.85	300.29
2.	Assam	70.90	24.63	95.53
3.	Bihar	284.03	11.78	295.81
4.	Goa	7.66	..	7.66

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Gujarat	228.60	48.91	277.51
6.	Haryana	139.52	..	139.52
7.	Himachal Pradesh	247.95	22.50	270.45
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	33.51	.	33.51
9.	Karnataka	511.78	19.92	531.70
10.	Kerala	179.51	15.54	195.05
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1243.46	265.69	1509.15
12.	Maharashtra	485.97	52.81	538.78
13.	Manipur	4.85	14.48	19.33
14.	Meghalaya	..	8.99	8.99
15.	Mizoram	..	14.80	14.80
16.	Nagaland	..	7.92	7.92
17.	Orissa	335.86	98.17	434.03
18.	Punjab	522.45	..	552.45
19.	Rajasthan	622.35	37.27	659.62
20.	Sikkim	..	24.75	24.75
21.	Tamil Nadu	1633.04	140.33	1773.37
22.	Tripura	40.53	39.44	79.97
23.	Uttar Pradesh	2096.48	34.07	2131.35
24.	West Bengal	267.00	104.55	371.55
25.	Pondicherry	1.10	.	1.10
26.	A&N Island	4.00	5.60	9.60
27.	Chandigarh	0.60	..	0.60
	TOTAL:	9228.59	1025.80	10254.39

Statement II

Main recommendations of the CRCD study on Rural Consumrs Scheme of NCDC

(a) Once the PDS work is given to a society, it should not be withdrawn. If at all it becomes necessary to withdraw some item, sufficient notice should be given to the society concerned, so that they may take necessary adjustments.

(b) The nature of business of the societies is a flickering nature. Hence they should maintain both permanent staff, temporary staff, the later on contract basis. In case of sudden withdrawal of business, the temporary staff can be terminated.

(c) Lead societies having some retail shops doing PDS business are in a better financial condition than those who are confining their business to wholesale work. It would thus be advantageous for the lead societies to have 3 or 4 retail outlets in addition to wholesale work.

(d) There is more profit in non-PDS (essential) items like non-controlled and controlled cloth, non-controlled rice/wheat, pulses, tea, salt, tyres, tubes and soaps etc. The societies should take-up business in such items in their own interest.

(e) There is a need for improving the retail sales techniques. The shops can be made cleaner and more presentable. The salesmen should be more business like and courteous to the customers. There should be better supervision by cooperative department.

(f) Some societies pointed out that the district Cooperative Banks were charging high rate of interest on the loans advanced by them to the societies for consumer business, even though the NABARD has advised them to charge only 13.5 per cent. The banks should charge not more than 13.5 per cent rate of interest on loans for consumer business.

(g) Some shortages were inevitable in retail business of PDS items. The Civil Supplies Department, however, does not give any allowance for these shortages. Some reasonable shortages should be permitted to the societies doing retail business which would cut-down their losses marginally.

(h) There is a case for an upward revision in the margin on PDS items If the margins are not revised, the societies undertaking PDS business would, sooner than later go in losses, creating another problems for the State Government to solve. In case it is not possible to increase the margins, the State Government may consider providing some managerial subsides to the societies.

गेहूं का समर्थन मूल्य

6560. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने वर्तमान फसल के लिए गेहूं का समर्थन मूल्य निर्धारित किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके आधार क्या हैं ;

(ग) क्या सरकार का ध्यान भारतीय खाद्य निगम के अध्यक्ष के उस बयान की ओर दिलाया गया है जिसमें उन्होंने न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य में की गई इस वृद्धि को बहुत मामूली बताया है; और

(घ) किसानों के लागत मूल्य और समर्थन मूल्य के बीच क्या संबंध है और क्या सरकार ने इस संबंध में जानकारी प्राप्त की है, और यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरुन्धिद नेताम) : (क) से (घ) कृषि लागत व मूल्य आयोग द्वारा दी गई सिफारिशों, राज्य सरकारों तथा संबंधित केन्द्रीय मंत्रालयों के विचारों को ध्यान में रखते हुए और अन्य संगत घटकों पर विचार करने के बाद सरकार ने 1995-96 में बेचे जाने वाले वर्ष 1994-95 की फसल के लिए उचित औसत क्वालिटी के गेहूं का न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य 360 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल निर्धारित किया है। सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य न केवल उत्पादन की लागत को कवर करता है बल्कि जोत का उचित मार्जिन भी प्रदान करता है।